Recommendation	Action taken/position
	Today, China is the largest producer of tobacco in the world. In the recent years China has emerged as a major exporter of tobacco in the world and is competing with India in the international market. It is reported that China requires small quantities of Indian tobacco for blending purposes. Hence India at present is exporting tobacco to China ranging from 400 to 600 tons annually.

Expending Aquaculture in rice growing Areas of A.P.

1903. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether MPEDA has been making efforts to expand aquaculture in rice growing areas in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether MPEDA has made any environmental impact study of its move to encourage conversion of rice lands to aquaculture ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of National Marine Fishries Development Board

1904. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a "National Marine Fisheries Development Board" for the overall development of the fisheries sector in the country ;

(b) if so, by when indicating the number of 100 percent E.O.Us which have so far been set up in the fish processing sector/ the number of proposals cleared for the last two years indicating the total investment involved ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government earned foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 1,767 crores during 1992-93 in this sector, if so, what are the estimated earnings during the current financial year 1994-95 as compared to 1993-94 in foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir. This Ministery has no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The total exports of marine products during 1992-93 was Rs. 1,767 crores. During 1994-95 the estimated target is Rs. 2,720 crores. During 1993-94 the anticipated figure is Rs. 2,227 crores.

Removing export blockages of the Industry

1905. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have taken any decision with regard to the problems of the industry by removing some of the major export blockages in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government would make improvements in the duty exemption schemes ;

(d) whether the issue of licences on a repeat basis has been removed by Government ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof in this respect and what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Review of the Export Import Policy is a continuous process and changes are made as & when considered necessary in public interest.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

EPZ in Punjab

1906. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Export Promotion Zone in the State of Punjab inspite of major exports earning from the State ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what effective steps Government propose to take to set up Export Promotion Zone in Punjab for the economic growth of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Presently, there are seven Export Processing Zones in the country at Bombay (Maharashtra), Kandla (Gujarat), Cochin (Kerala), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Falta (West Bengal) Noida (Uttar Pradesh) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). Keeping in view the availability of funds and the need to optimise infrastructural facilities in the existing Zones, it would not be possible, at present, for the Central Government to consider developing new zones in the country.

Budgetary Support for Fertilizers and Fertilizer Industry under AMS

1907. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that much of the budgetary support for fertilizers is to be ascribed to the fertilizer industry and not to the farmers according to the Non-product specific Aggregate Measurement of Support (A.M.S.) as submitted by Government in the the Uruguay Round Draft Final Act ;

(b) what is the total budgetary support ascribed to the fertilizer industry ; and

(c) what are the reasons for such support ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) During the reference period 1986—88, the average total annual budgetary support on account of fertilizers was Rs. 2,421 crores. It has been calculated that of this sum, the average annual budgetary support attributable to farmers was Rs. 1,021 crores and the remainder could be ascribed as support to industry to make it viable.

Withholding Payment of CCS by DGFT

1908. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director General Foreign Trade (DGFT) offices at Bombay and Cochin have been withholding payment of Cash Compensatory Support as were available before 2nd July, 1991 to some exporters ;

(b) whether Government have received representations in this regard ;

(c) whether some of the exporters are not being released CCS amount due to objections of audit authorities ;

(d) whether Government have not issued appropriate clarification to the auditors ; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (e) All exporters who have effected physical export of goods upto 2-7-1991, and are eligible for CCS are being paid by the Offices of Joint Director General of Foreign Trade, Bombay and Joint Director General of Foreign Trade, Cochin.